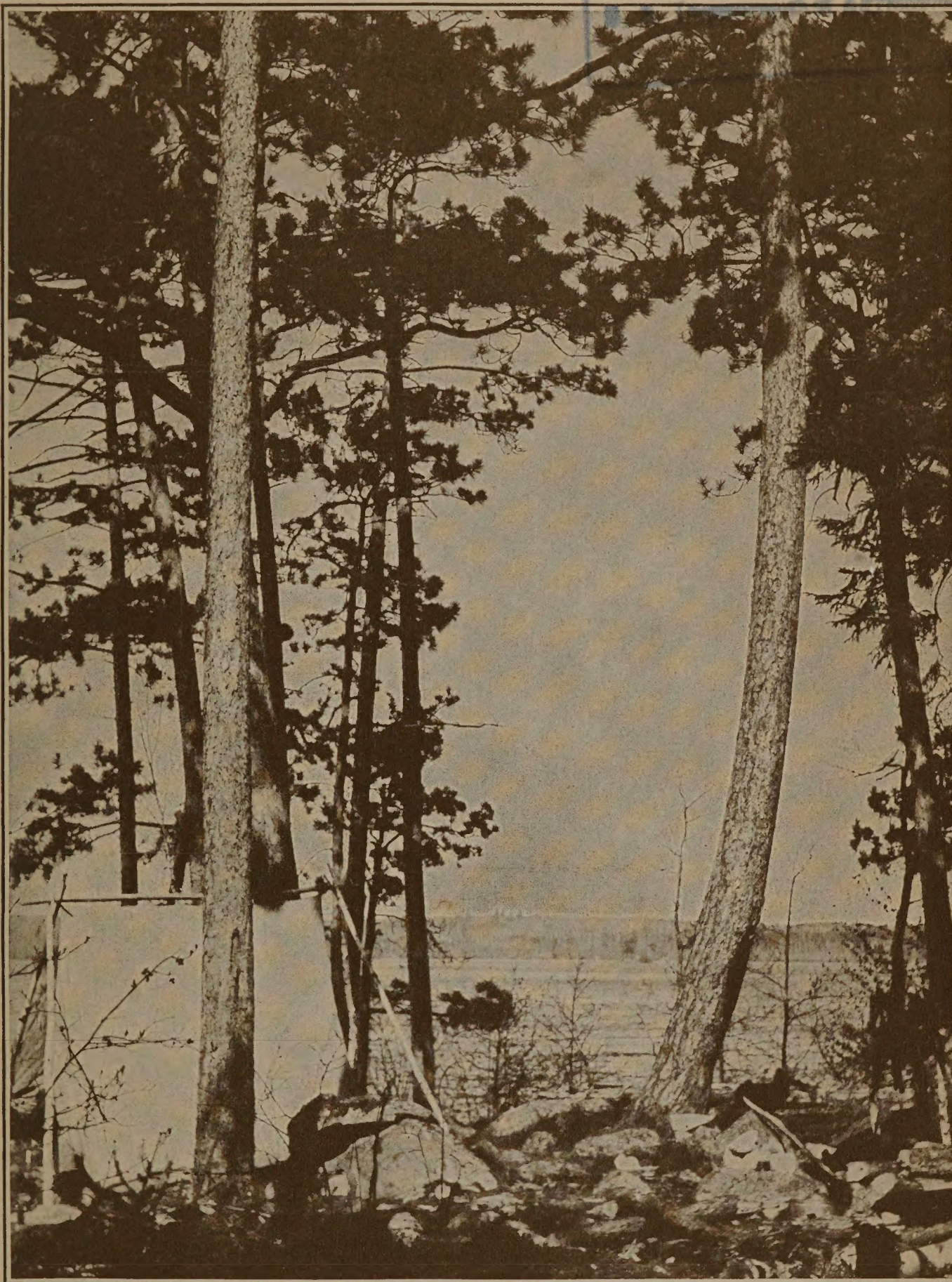


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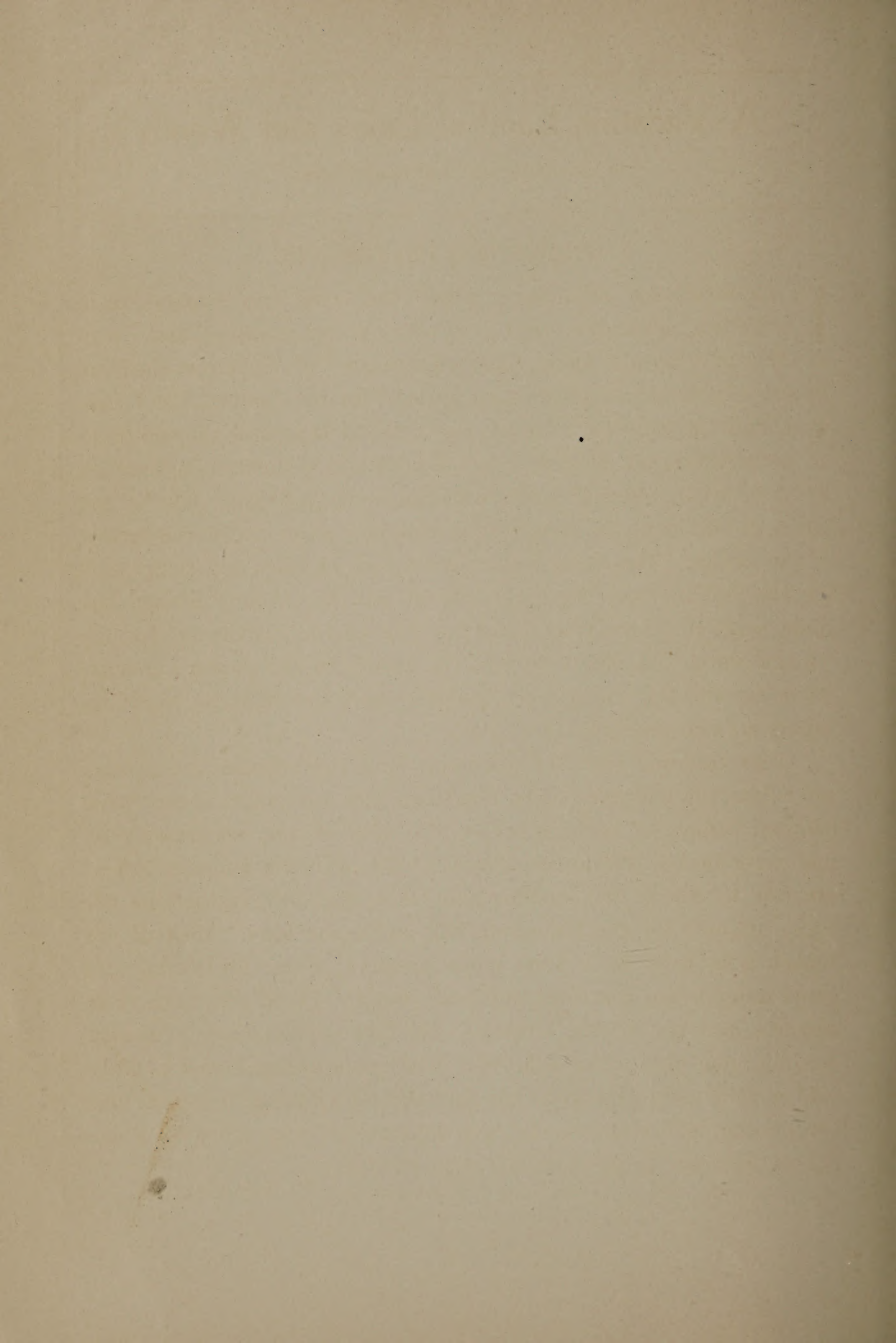
94
A Vacation Land of Lakes and Woods

The Superior National Forest



A LAKE SHORE CAMP

United States Department of Agriculture, Forest Service : 1919



A Vacation Land of Lakes and Woods

The Superior National Forest

A WILDERNESS PLAYGROUND.

IN NORTHERN Minnesota, where the lakes and streams teem with fish, where the forest is in many places primeval, and where the prairies are alive with wild game, the Superior National Forest affords an ideal recreation ground for the camper, the fisherman, and the canoeist. Its 857,000 acres of land and 150,000 acres of water, exclusive of rivers, are a northern wilderness, untouched by civilization, where the silence of the woods is broken only by the laugh of the loon, the splash of muskalonge or trout, or the bellow of the moose. The water routes, a network of lakes and rivers that for the Indians and the early settlers and fur traders formed the main route of travel from Lake Superior to the Northwest, furnish "white water" in plenty to test the mettle of the expert canoeist, while for the less experienced paddler there are trips in which no rapids are encountered.

Fine camping sites are abundant, and the voyager can always pitch his tent wherever night overtakes him—at places others have camped before, or perhaps where the ring of the woodsman's ax has never broken the forest silence. Visitors in the Superior Forest are free to fish in the streams and lakes; the only restrictions are those imposed by the Minnesota fish and game laws. Most of the Forest is included in a State game preserve, where fur-bearing and game animals are protected the year round. Those who take their cameras into the woods, however, will find opportunities in plenty for obtaining pictures of wild life. The game in the Forest is truly wild, and is apt to be off at the first sign of a human presence; but the photographer can usually snap his subject from shore by stalking, or from the canoe if he is a good paddler.

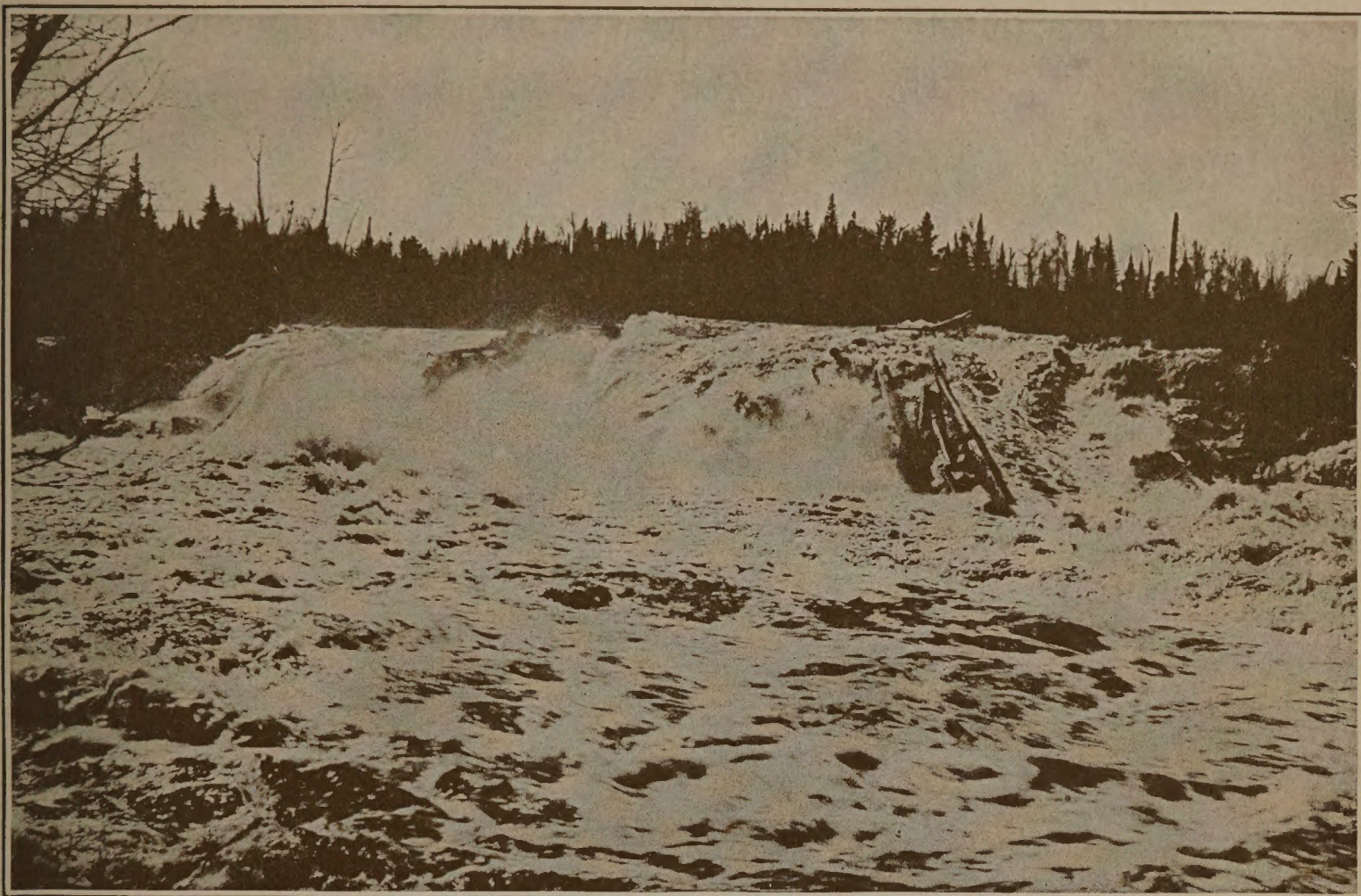
Created primarily for timber and watershed protection, the Superior National Forest extends southward from the international boundary to within a mile of Lake Superior, and from east to west, in Cook, Lake, and St. Louis Counties, has a width of 110 miles. The lowest point in the Forest has an elevation of 1,115 feet, and the highest point, which is also the highest in the State, is 2,230 feet above sea level and 1,628 feet above Lake Superior. The main drainage is southward into Lake Superior and northward and westward into tributaries of Hudson Bay.

The headquarters of the Forest is at Ely, Minn. By writing to the Supervisor at this address, those who plan a visit can obtain information regarding routes of travel and the like. Similar information will be given gladly by Forest officers on the ground.

The best way to enjoy a vacation in the Superior National Forest is with a canoe. This booklet describes some of the trips which one may make in the Forest and also the opportunities which it affords for summer homes.

CANOE TRIPS.

Special charm is lent to a canoe trip through the Superior National Forest by the fact that the country one passes through is truly a wilderness. In its beaver-dammed streams one may catch an abundance of fish in a half hour's trolling. Often one meets a deer, which gazes at the intruder in startled wonderment, or the canoe may glide silently upon a giant moose, feeding on the grasses along the shore, which watches the intruder's coming with sullen surprise before crashing out of sight through the brush. Rounding the point of a winding stream, one catches sight of the bank beaver as it dives under the water, or a glimpse of a mink or fisher gliding to cover. On the portage a porcupine waddles hastily across the path ahead, and with much scratching and wheezing climbs the nearest tree for safety. All about the voyager is the ever-moving wild life of forest, lake, and stream.



"WHITE WATER" FOR THE CANOEIST

The canoe trip from Ely to Tower, considered to be one of the best in the country, takes one through Fall Lake into Basswood, then follows the international boundary waters from the Ely to Tower outlet of this lake, around picturesque falls and through swirling rapids alternating with quiet stretches of water, into Crooked Lake. At the outlet of this long, winding body of water is the wonderful Curtain Falls. Continuing, the route leads through Iron and Bottle Lakes into Lac La Croix, noted for its beautiful scenery and excellent fishing. On the face of a cliff which rises perpendicularly from the water's edge, is an old Indian picture gallery. Paddling onward, an Indian village is reached on the north shore of the lake. Swinging southwest and crossing a portage, one continues down Loon Lake and River into Little Vermillion and Sand Point Lakes, and turns south through King Williams narrows into Crane Lake and across to the mouth of the Vermillion River. Up the river from this point one passes around numerous falls and rapids and

through wild rice beds to Vermillion Dam. The trip across Lake Vermillion may be made on one of the passenger boats which ply the lake, or by canoe, if preferred.

A canoe trip from Ely to Lake Saganaga over the route followed by the early "coureurs des bois" gives one an opportunity to see this country as did the brigades of the fur companies. En route one passes through Fall Lake, down the Pipestone into Basswood, and turns eastward along the international boundary waters to Lake Saganaga through Birch, Carp, Big Knife, and Cypress Lakes. The portages on this trip are all short and in good condition. Among the many interesting sights are the rapids at Prairie Portage and the high, rocky shores of Cypress Lake where the cliffs rise several hundred feet. Along this part of the route the scenery is particularly fine. At one place on the shore old Indian paintings are spread on the face of the cliff. Climbing a bluff



DINNER TIME IN THE SUPERIOR NATIONAL FOREST
This is the proper way to build a woods' fire-place

near the inlet to Big Saganaga, a delightful panorama of wooded shores, timber-clad islands, deep bays, and rice beds unfolds. Saganaga Falls, a cataract of foaming water near the outlet of the lake on the north side, drops a distance of 40 feet, and is well worth a visit. From Lake Saganaga trips may be made north into the Quetico Provincial Park, eastward to Gun Flint Lake, or southward into the Kawishiwi River and back to Ely.

Kawishiwi-Isabella Trip

The Kawishiwi-Isabella route begins at White Iron Rapids and leads up the North Kawishiwi through Lakes One,

Two, Three, Four, and Insula and Alice, and then heads south to Lakes Koma, Polly, Town Line, Horn, Square, and Beaver House, the latter of which is the head of the river. From this point a 2-mile portage across the divide brings one into the Isabella drainage; thence the route leads through Parent and Isabella Lakes, down the Isabella River and across Bald Eagle and Gabro Lakes into the South Ka-



NORWAY PINE FOREST

wishiwí River. A turn-off may be followed into Clear Lake, thence across the divide and back into the North Kawishíwi River just above Dead Man's Portage and about 6 miles from White Iron Landing.

Other attractive trips may be taken through the lakes along the Duluth and Northern Minnesota Railway in Cook County. Many of

**Other Attractive
Trips** these lakes are near the track, while others are at some distance away. All of them contain the usual

varieties of fish and wild game. In this region it is usually possible to get mail and provisions each day by train. A few miles back from the railroad, at Saw Bill Lake, a start may be made for a canoe trip north to the boundary waters through Alton, Kelso, Mesaba, Little Saganaga, Gobbemichigamma, Ogishkemuncie, Jasper, Alpine, and Red Rock Lakes into Big Saganaga Lake. This route leads through a country which was burned over some 40 years ago and has since grown up to poplar and birch. Many of the lakes have been stocked with trout.

A trip well worth while is into the country north of Grand Marais. The first part of the journey is made by wagon to the South Brule River. Once this point is reached the trip is limited only by the time at one's disposal and the amount of supplies one can carry. Upon reaching Brule Lake one may take his choice of going north through Winchell, Poplar, West Bearskin, and Clearwater Lakes to the boundary waters, or westward to Saw Bill Lake, the Kawishíwi River, or to Big Saganaga Lake. These waters teem with salmon-trout, bass, and pickerel. An automobile road now building north from Grand Marais will open up a country suitable for summer cottages on the shores of many picturesque bodies of water where fishing and bathing facilities are the best.

SUMMER-HOME SITES.

Many of those who visit northeastern Minnesota each year doubtless will wish to establish a summer home in the Superior National Forest. Sites for summer homes can be leased for a term of years



LOON LAKE

at an annual rental of from \$10 to \$25. The Superior Forest contains an unlimited number of such sites, many of them of unusual attractiveness. A few lots have already been laid out on the east shore of White Iron Lake, 5 miles east of Ely and reached by two automobile roads. The lots are 2 miles up the lake, and each one has a water frontage. The lake is large enough for fair-sized power boats, and there are a number of bathing beaches. Fishing is excellent, and trips may be made to other nearby waters where the finny tribe is plentiful.

Fine summer-home sites may be found along the shores of the lakes reached by the Duluth & Northern Minnesota Railway in Cook County. No lots have been laid out in this locality, but applications will receive prompt attention. These lakes are large enough for small power boats and are well stocked with fish. Triweekly train service is provided, and arrangements can be made for receiving mail and supplies.

The lake region north of Grand Marais will no doubt be a mecca for people in search of ideal summer-home sites upon the completion of the automobile road now being built into that region. These lakes teem with the finest of fresh-water fish, such as land-locked salmon, pickerel, and bass.

Many other sites along the shores of the inland lakes may appeal to those who wish to get out of sight and sound of civilization, and the Forest Service will act promptly upon applications for sites in any portion of the Forest.

RESORTS AND OUTFITTING POINTS.

Many visitors to the Superior National Forest make their headquarters in the open or at permanent summer homes near the lakes, while others find it convenient to stop in one of the several towns near the Forest. At Grand Marais, Lutsen, Tofte, and Schroeder, on the route of the United States & Dominion Transportation Company along the north shore of Lake Superior, and at Tower,

Ely, and Winton, on the Duluth & Iron Range Railroad ("The Vermillion Route"), good hotel accommodations can be had. Outing companies at Tower and Ely make a specialty of furnishing accommodations for tourists. Ely, at which is the Forest headquarters, is a central and convenient starting point for a large part of the Forest, whose nearest boundary is 6 miles away. The roads leading from Ely are with few exceptions suitable for automobile travel, and three good roads lead directly into the National Forest.

LINES OF TRAVEL.

The Superior Forest can be reached from Duluth and the Mesabi Range cities by automobile

via Tower, or Two Harbors and the North Shore road. Also by the Duluth & Iron Range Railroad from Duluth; by the Duluth & North-



SUNSET IN VACATION LAND

ern Minnesota Railway from Knife River (an automobile stage meets this train at Cramer for points along the north shore from Schroeder east to Grand Portage), and by a steamer of the United States & Dominion Transportation Company which makes three trips a week along the north shore.

FIRE PROTECTION.

Observation towers, located on points of vantage, form the principal means of fire detection on the Superior Forest. Every Forest officer is required to give fire protection and suppression right of way over all other lines of work during hazardous periods of the year.

The greater number of forest fires are caused by human agencies. In passing by a stretch of burned country one is impressed by the desolation left in the wake of the fire—the blackened stubs of once green trees, the absence of animal and bird life, the beauty spots of nature laid waste. Pleasure seekers in the Superior Forest can take a direct part in preventing scenes like this by being careful with fire when in the woods and by cautioning others to be careful. Cooperate with Forest officers by putting out any fires you see, if you can, and report them promptly to the nearest ranger. Telephones, giving connection with Forest officers, are located at various points in the Forest, and visitors are asked to use them in reporting fires. Travel is slow in this region, and an hour or two saved in reaching a fire may in turn save days of hard labor in putting it out.

In order that camp grounds may be inviting to the next visitor, they must be kept clean. Camp refuse and tin cans should be buried, and papers, old clothing, and other inflammable material burned. The cooperation of visitors in maintaining neat and sanitary camp grounds will be greatly appreciated.

On the accompanying map the distances between solid light lines (township boundaries) represent 6 miles.



